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Kansas Adjutant Generals' reports

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Report of the Adjutant General, <1863, 1869>

Annual Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Kansas, for the year ... <1870-1872>

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL

OF THE

STATE OF KANSAS.

FOR THE YEAR 1871.

TOPEKA, KANSAS:
S. S. PROUTY, PUBLIC PRINTER.
PRINTED AT THE "COMMONWEALTH" STATE PRINTING HOUSE.
1871.

ROSTER OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND STAFF.

NAME.	RANK.	OFFICE.
JAMES M. HARVEY	Governor	Commander-in-Chief
DAVID WHITTAKER	Colonel	Adjutant General
J. G. HASKELL	Colonel	Quartermaster General
H. T. BEMAN	Major	Assistant Adjutant General
WILLIAM BURGOYNE	Lieutenant Colonel	Aid-de-Camp
WILLIAM C. JONES	Lieutenant Colonel	Aid-de-Camp
FRANK H. DRENNING	Lieutenant Colonel	Aid-de-Camp

REPORT.

STATE OF KANSAS,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
TOPEKA, December 7, 1871.

To His Excellency JAMES M. HARVEY,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief:

SIR: I have the honor to submit to Your Excellency the Annual Report of the Adjutant General's Department for the year 1871.

STATE MILITIA.

Since my last report there have been five independent companies of State Militia organized for frontier protection; two in Mitchell county, one in Jewell county, one in Russell county, and one in Barton county—petitions having been presented to Your Excellency from the citizens of each of the counties named asking for such organization.

The accompanying table shows the number of enrolled militia in the State for the years 1870 and 1871, as returned by the county clerks:

RETURN OF ENROLLED MILITIA.

COUNTIES.	1870.	1871.
Allen	808	1115
Anderson	.....	.....
Atchison	1471	1702
Bourbon	1812	1497
Brown	1040	1312
Butler	252	.....
Chase	.....	.....
Cherokee	.....	.....
Clay	369	.....
Cloud	351	825
Cowley	.....	.....
Coffey	864	.....
Crawford	.....	816
Davis	.....	.....
Dickinson	517	.....
Doriphan	1891	.....
Douglas	1954	2130
Ellis	450	.....
Ellsworth	168	141
Franklin	1675	1871
Greenwood	517	702
Howard	.....	.....
Jackson	835	.....
Jefferson	.....	.....
Jewell	.....	.....
Johnson	1256	1441
Labette	1200	.....
Leavenworth	3849	.....
Linn	1578	.....
Lincoln	.....	.....
Lyon	1166	1274
Marion	186	259
Marshall	662	.....
McPherson	.....	.....
Miami	1597	1558
Mitchell	.....	.....
Morris	.....	.....
Montgomery	.....	.....
Nemaha	47	1174
Neosho	.....	.....
Osage	1262	1849
Osborne	.....	.....
Ottawa	157	.....
Pottawatomie	1048	.....
Republic	155	.....
Rice	.....	.....
Riley	838	885
Saline	953	954
Sedgwick	.....	.....
Shawnee	1875	1024
Sumner	.....	.....
Wabaunsee	591	676
Wallace	.....	.....
Washington	952	.....
Wilson	622	1966
Woodson	.....	698
Wyandotte	1226	.....

A commission was created by an act of the last Legislature, to audit the claims for losses sustained by settlers on the western frontier. Section seven of the act reads as follows, to-wit:

"That it be and hereby is made the duty of the Adjutant General to notify the settlers in the frontier counties, by circular letters sent to such persons as in his opinion will give it publicity, that such commission has been appointed, and the object thereof, at least two weeks before the 31st day of May, which letter shall sufficiently detail the object of said commission, so that the same shall not be unnecessarily delayed in the performance of its duty."

In compliance with this section of the act, I issued the following circular, and sent copies to such persons as I thought would give it publicity:

[CIRCULAR NO. 4.]

STATE OF KANSAS,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
TOPEKA, May 15, 1871.

It is hereby announced for the information and guidance of all concerned, that, by virtue of an act entitled "An act to provide for the settlement of the losses sustained between the years 1861 and 1871, by the settlers on the western frontier, from Indian depredations," approved February 28, 1871, the following named Commissioners have been appointed by the Governor of the State of Kansas, viz:

D. D. Colley, Leavenworth;

David Heller, Clyde, Cloud county;

Thomas W. Bown, Marion Center, Marion county.

They will meet at Topeka, Kansas, on the 6th day of June, 1871, for the purpose of taking the necessary oaths and entering upon the performance of their duties, which will be "to examine in all particulars into the claims of the citizens of this State, residing on the frontier adjacent to the country roamed over by the Indians of the plains, which claims are

for the loss of stock and other property stolen, destroyed and gone to waste by reason of the depredations of the Indians of any tribe that frequently have passed through that region of country, and also any claims that may be presented for damages for loss of property only, that may have risen from any settler having been compelled to abandon his claim or farm or home by reason of said Indian hostilities or raids."

The Commissioners will make a report to the Governor, on or before the 10th day of August next.

Claimants will, if known, give the name or tribe of Indians that committed the depredations.

The forms of proof will be the affidavit of the claimant, supported by at least two disinterested witnesses, and such other evidence as the Commission may require.

Citizens of the State having sustained losses as above set forth, may send claims to Topeka, Kansas, directed in care of this office, until June 6th, 1871, after which time claims will be forwarded to such places as the Board of Commissioners may designate.

DAVID WHITTAKER,
Adjutant General.

The Commissioners met and organized on the day appointed, remaining in session at Topeka until the 10th day of June, and after having visited the counties of Marion, Saline and Cloud, holding sessions at different places in those counties, they adjourned on the 5th of August, reporting the number of claims audited by them as one hundred and eighty-five, amounting to two hundred and thirty-six thousand, seven hundred and seventeen dollars and seventy-five cents ($236,717.75.) Over thirty claims have been sent to this office since the adjournment of the Board, amounting in the aggregate to twenty-six thousand, four hundred and forty-four dollars. As these claims appear to be of the same class as those already audited, I would respectfully suggest that Your Excellency recommend that some action be taken by the incoming Legislature to have them examined and allowed.

It affords me great satisfaction to report that during the year our frontier settlers have been almost entirely free from alarms caused by the appearance of hostile Indians. To the precautionary measure taken by Your Excellency, of having United States troops stationed in advance of the thickly settled portions of our western frontier counties, is mainly to be attributed this pleasing fact.

STATE ARMS.

During the year I have collected about six hundred stand of arms, with accoutrements. The arms thus collected were in bad condition, and I have had them repaired and cleaned. The following is a list of ordnance and ordnance stores in the armory at Topeka:

ARTICLES.	CONDITION.
270 U. S. rifle muskets, calibre .58	Serviceable
122 Enfield rifle muskets, calibre .577	do
11 U. S. smooth-bore muskets, calibre .69	do
84 foreign smooth-bore muskets, all calibres	Rusty
1381 cartridge boxes	Serviceable
1530 bayonets	do
1825 bayonet scabbards	do
113 revolver scabbards	do
1009 cap pouches	do
207 sabre belts	do
123 sabres	do
50 waist-belts	do
250 gun-slings	do
29 lariats	do
200 haversacks	do
29,000 cartridges, all calibres	Good

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

The correspondence of the office with the departments at Washington, with claim agents and soldiers, is large.

Over two hundred certificates taken from the records on file in this office, of muster, services, etc., of soldiers assisting to suppress the late rebellion, have been forwarded, on application for the same, to the soldier, his mother, wife or agent.

The expenditures of the office for the year 1871 are as follows:

Adjutant General's salary . . .	$1000 00
Postage	25 00
Contingent fund	200 00
Total	$1225 00

Thanking Your Excellency for the uniform kindnes received at your hands,

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

DAVID WHITTAKER,

Adjutant General.